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examination of foods, as well as the physician who may be called upon to identify vegetable substances in stomach contents and feces, and the author is to be congratulated upon the very happy manner in which he has presented his material.

The work is divided into the following parts: I. Preliminary Equipment, Methods and General Principles. II. Grain: its Products and Impurities. III. Oil Seeds and Oil Cakes. IV. Legumes. V. Nuts. VI. Fruit and Fruit Products. VII. Vegetables. VIII. Alkaloidal Products and their Substitutes. IX. Spices and Condiments. X. Commercial Starches. General Bibliography. Glossary. The descriptions of edible fungi in Part VII, of leaves in Part VIII, and of barks, roots, leaves, and flowers in Part IX, and the analytical key to the commercial starches in Part X, are by Professor Moeller.

The text is arranged in a very systematic manner, the treatment of each substance including a brief statement of its source, the distribution of the plant, its varieties, and the botanical characters of the part used, followed by a detailed account of the histology of the part and its diagnosis, ending in every case with a bibliography. The work is profusely illustrated and numerous analytical keys add to the value of the book as a reference guide. While the evident intent has been to make the text in the highest degree practical, this has been secured without in any way interfering with a thoroughly scientific treatment of the subject.

WATSON & SONS' INSTRUMENTS

A feature which is worthy of special notice in connection with recent introductions by the opticians, W. Watson & Sons, of 313 High Holborn, London, England, is a long range of movements on mechanical stages.

With the rapidly increasing demand for instruments affording facilities for systematic examination of blood streaks, bacteriological specimens, etc., a necessity has arisen for mechanical stages giving a very long traverse. In Watson & Sons' instruments this is accomplished in a strikingly efficient manner. In one stage which they call the " Scop " the milled heads controlling the vertical and horizontal movements are mounted on the same stem, on the Tyrrell system, and set at an angle on the right-hand side of the stage completely out of the way and yet in the most convenient position for working. With this stage any desired length of traverse can be provided, but the ordinary stock pattern gives two and one-fourth inches.

The other stage is the one fitted to their " Bactil " microscope and might be described as a semi-detachable stage. The vertical movement is operated by a rack and pinion and the upper travelling plate is exactly like that of the plain stage of an ordinary microscope. The horizontal fitting is carried completely as a separate mechanism and is attached to the plate just referred to by means of two thumbscrews. When in position the object can be carried horizontally rather more than two inches. This stage is peculiarly convenient because it combines all the advantages of the best type of mechanical stage, and when the horizontal mechanism is removed the clear surface of an ordinary plain stage instrument is at once available with the added convenience of a vertical mechanical movement.

These are only two items from a catalogue, which comprises 178 pages, that is published by W. Watson & Sons, and which we are sure it would interest the majority of our readers to apply for and read. Messrs. Watson offer to send this catalogue free by mail to members of the American Microscopical Society who may apply for it.

ROSS MICROSCOPES

Ross microscopes have always been distinguished for possessing the essential principles of first-class instruments. Superior workmanship and strict attention to detail in construction, the results of long experience,—the firm having been established as far back as 1830,—have given them their universal reputation. Careful study of modern requirements has led to the production of the up-to-date Ross " Standard " model. It embraces the most recent ideas and many improvements not to be found in instruments of other manufacture. The " Standard," with two achromatic objectives, may be purchased at a price which is very moderate for a microscope of this type, while other objectives, focusing swing-out substage, condenser, mechanical stage, and other accessories, are readily added at any time, with equal efficiency, so that the same instrument can be subsequently used for the most advanced work.

Messrs. Ross, manufacturing opticians, of 111 New Bond Street,